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By: **Senator Middleton (Chairman, Task Force on Resource Based Industry in Maryland) and Senator Stoltzfus**

Introduced and read first time: January 17, 2001  
Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
Senate action: Adopted  
Read second time: February 20, 2001

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Resource Based Industry in Maryland - Membership,**  
3 **Staffing, and Reporting Requirements**

4 FOR the purpose of modifying the nature of a certain required report of the Task  
5 Force on Resource Based Industry in Maryland; requiring the Task Force to  
6 submit a certain report, based on a certain assessment, on or before a certain  
7 date; adding to the membership of the Task Force; requiring the State  
8 Department of Agriculture, the Department of Business and Economic  
9 Development, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Maryland Food  
10 Center Authority to provide certain assistance to the Task Force at certain  
11 times; providing for the termination of the Act that created the Task Force; and  
12 generally relating to the Task Force on Resource Based Industry in Maryland.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Chapter 433 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2000  
15 Section 1 and 2

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Chapter 433 of the Acts of 2000**

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
20 MARYLAND, That:

21 (a) There is a Task Force on Resource Based Industry in Maryland.

1 (b) The Task Force shall consist of the following members:

2 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President  
3 of the Senate;

4 (2) two members of the Maryland House of Delegates, appointed by the  
5 Speaker of the House;

6 (3) the Secretary of Business and Economic Development, or the  
7 Secretary's designee;

8 (4) the Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee;

9 (5) the Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary's designee;

10 (6) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND FOOD CENTER  
11 AUTHORITY, OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;

12 (7) the Director of the Maryland Cooperative Extension, or the Director's  
13 designee;

14 [(7)] (8) the Chair of the Forum for Rural Maryland, or the Chair's  
15 designee;

16 [(8)] (9) the Chair of the Maryland Forestry Task Force, or the Chair's  
17 designee;

18 [(9)] (10) a representative of the Western Maryland "One Maryland" Task  
19 Force, selected by the members of the Western Maryland Task Force;

20 [(10)] (11) a representative of the Eastern Shore "One Maryland" Task  
21 Force, selected by the members of the Eastern Shore Task Force; ~~and~~

22 (12) THREE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICIALS FROM RURAL  
23 COUNTIES, SELECTED BY THE SECRETARY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC  
24 DEVELOPMENT AS FOLLOWS:

25 (I) ONE FROM THE EASTERN SHORE OF MARYLAND;

26 (II) ONE FROM THE WESTERN SHORE OF MARYLAND; AND

27 (III) ONE FROM SOUTHERN MARYLAND; AND

28 [(11)] ~~(12)~~ (13) five members appointed jointly by the President of the  
29 Senate and the Speaker of the House to represent each of the following rural industry  
30 sectors:

31 (i) agriculture;

32 (ii) forestry;

- 1 (iii) fisheries;
- 2 (iv) mineral extraction; and
- 3 (v) rural commercial finance or lending.

4 (c) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall jointly  
5 designate two of the members as co-chairs of the Task Force.

6 (d) The Task Force shall:

7 (1) examine the need for, and the feasibility of, establishing a financing  
8 development authority to assist Maryland's farming, fishing, forestry, and mining  
9 extraction industries with loans, financing, training, and technical and business  
10 planning assistance services;

11 (2) consider the types of loans, financing, training, technical and  
12 business planning assistance services, and other programs that a financing  
13 development authority should implement;

14 (3) consider the amount in which a financing development authority  
15 should be funded;

16 (4) consider whether the financing development authority should be an  
17 independent State government entity or be incorporated into an existing State  
18 government agency;

19 (5) develop recommendations regarding the establishment of the  
20 financing development authority; [and]

21 (6) report its PRELIMINARY recommendations to the Governor and, in  
22 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly  
23 on or before December 1, 2000; AND

24 (7) **BASED ON A COMPREHENSIVE INTERAGENCY ASSESSMENT OF THE**  
25 **NEEDS OF AFFECTED INDUSTRIES, INCLUDING ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, EXPECTED**  
26 **LEVEL OF DEMAND, TYPES OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, EXPECTED INVESTMENT**  
27 **RETURNS, AND PERFORMANCE EVALUATION MEASURES, REPORT ITS FINAL**  
28 **RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF**  
29 **THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON OR BEFORE**  
30 **DECEMBER 31, 2001.**

31 (e) The Department of Legislative Services, [in consultation with] WITH THE  
32 ASSISTANCE OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, the Department of  
33 Business and Economic Development, THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES,  
34 AND THE MARYLAND FOOD CENTER AUTHORITY, shall, AS NECESSARY, provide  
35 RESEARCH ASSISTANCE AND staff support for the Task Force.

36 (f) A member of the Task Force:

1           (1)     may not receive compensation; but

2           (2)     is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
3 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

4     SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
5 July 1, 2000. IT SHALL REMAIN EFFECTIVE FOR A PERIOD OF 1 YEAR AND 7 MONTHS  
6 AND, AT THE END OF JANUARY 31, 2002, WITH NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED BY  
7 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THIS ACT SHALL BE ABROGATED AND OF NO FURTHER  
8 FORCE AND EFFECT.

9     SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
10 July 1, 2001.